

STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

WATER DISTRICT NO. 37 & 37 M

P.O. Box T
Shoshone, Idaho 83352
(208) 886-2451

RECEIVED

MAR 04 1994

Department of Water Resources



LEE R. PETERSON
Watermaster

Tim Luke
State of Idaho
Dept. of Water Resources
1301 N Orchard St.
Statehouse Mail
Boise, Idaho 83720

March 2, 1994

Dear Tim:

The following is a proposal in regards to our phone conversation of February 24, 1994, to amend the procedure for assessing water users, based on assessment after the water has been diverted. It is common practice to bill for most commodities after they have been purchased, power, gas etc. We propose to bill the water user for the water diverted times the unit cost of the water at the end of the season. If there are unexpended funds at the end of any given year the next years adopted budget total less the surplus funds would determine the unit cost of the water, thus eliminating the Watermasters Cost Report that figures the debits and credits for each user. If this would require that the water users vote to forfeit the debits and credits for the year of transition, it could be accomplished at the next regular annual meeting or by resolution. If we choose to implement this new program in a year similar to the previous year there would not be a large amount of credit balances to forfeit.

This proposed system of billing is currently and successfully used by many irrigation districts within the State of Idaho.

Under the new billing system if a water user called to inquire about his bill it could be easily explained as follows.

Mr. Jones our records show you diverted 100 CFS during the 1994 season, our unit cost per CFS is .35. $100 \times .35 = \$35.00$.

Attached is an actual letter of inquiry from one of the water users in District 37M during the short water year of 1992, and the subsequent reply. Note the detailed explanation required to reply to this water users request and even then most do not fully understand it.

OF IDAHO
ARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES



LEE R. PETERSON
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1991 Budget Report

Total Adopted Budget of 43,264.78 divided by CFS of
129,526.60 = unit cost of .332241331 X CFS 93.80 = 31.17
minus credit of 21.28 = 9.89

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1991 Annual Report

Total Expenses 40,841.74 divided by CFS 110,910.94 = unit
cost of .3654543182 X CFS 65 = 23.75. Estimated share
from previous year of 31.17 minus
23.75 = credit of 7.42

1992 Budget Report

Total Adopted Budget of 43,970.97 divided by CFS of
112,554.32 = unit cost of .388453237 X 65 = 25.24 minus
credit of 7.42 = 17.82

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1992 Annual Report

Total Expenses 42,492.37 divided by CFS of 89,202.48 =
unit cost of .48 (rounded off) X CFS 123.30 = 59.18(actual
figure on report is 58.45 a difference of .73 due to
rounding off the decimals). Estimated share from previous
year of 25.24 minus 58.45 = a debit of 33.21

1993 Budget Report

Total Adopted Budget of 51,398.96 divided by CFS of
89,202.12 = unit cost of .58 (rounded off) X 123.30 = 71.51
(actual figure on report is 70.80 a difference of .71 due
to rounding off the decimals). 70.80 plus 33.21 = 104.01

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I have enclosed copies of your posted CFS sheets for 1991
and 1992. Unfortunately the fire destroyed our books for
the other years so I used the CFS that Reid used on the
reports. If you feel it is necessary we can obtain copies
from the Idaho Department of Water Resources in Twin
Falls.

As you can see this is a complicated procedure of billing,
however it is the method set forth by the Idaho Code
therefore we have no alternative. If you still have any
questions at all about your assessment please do not
hesitate to let us know. Your assessments for 1986 were
\$133.83, 1987 \$77.89 and 1988 \$88.75. The total CFS for
1992 has never been lower and there were less people to
pay the expenses because so many rights were not good
therefore those fortunate enough to get water had a much
larger bill. I hope this information helps if not let us
know.

Sincerely,

Lee R. Peterson
Watermaster

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We have also had many calls from water users asking how they can budget for there water assessment for the next year when there is such a variation from year to year, the proposed system would also simplify this situation. We feel another consideration, is the conjunctive management of ground and surface water. This will necessitate a better more up to date billing procedure.

While considering and discussing this request if we can be of help, do feel free to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lee R. Peterson".

Lee R. Peterson
Watermaster

Picabo, Id. 83348
April 15, 1993

Water District 37 & 37M
Box T
Shoshone, Id 83352

re: Assessment chg 29-93

Sir,
Our records show we paid the following for water in the
year

1989 \$ 31.41

1990 \$ 18.37

1991 \$ 9.89

1992 \$ 17.82

The assessment chg for 1993 is \$ 104.01

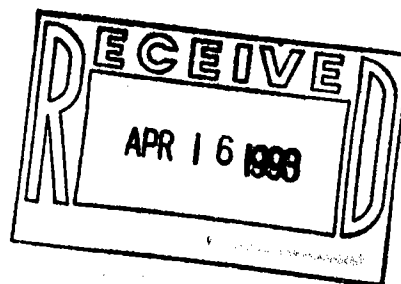
This 1993 amount suggests a possible mistake has been made..
Please, let us know how much we owe you.

Sincerely:

Walter Hofstetter
19185 US Hyw 20
Picabo, Id 83348

788-2813

W Hofstetter



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LEE R. PETERSON
Watermaster

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Walter Hofstetter
19185 U S Hwy 20
Picabo, Idaho 83348

April 19, 1993

Walter:

We received your letter Friday, April 16, 1993, in regards to your 1993 assessment. The assessment charges are calculated using the current years usage to charge for the next years water. To do this all the water CFS used in a year is totaled. Divide the sum of all the expenses for the year by the total CFS used to get a unit cost for the Annual Report. This unit cost is multiplied by the total CFS the individual used. This amount is then subtracted from the estimated share figured the year before. This generates either a debit or a credit.

For the billing, the total for the new year's budget is divided by the total CFS. This gives you a unit cost for the Budget Report. The individual's CFS multiplied by the unit cost equals estimated cost for next year, plus the debit or minus the credit from the Annual Report equals the assessment.

Below is a computation of your bill for those years mentioned in your letter.

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1988 Annual Report

Total Expenses 31,892.26 divided by total CFS of
116,921.80 = a unit cost of .2698439907 X CFS used 254.30
= 68.62. Estimated share from previous year was 108.64
minus 68.62 = a credit of 40.02.

1989 Budget Report

Total Adopted Budget of 35,969.73 divided by 130,124.20
CFS = unit cost of .280914594 X 254.30 = 71.43 minus
credit of 40.02 = total bill of 31.41

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1989 Annual Report

Total Expenses 33,821.56 divided by total CFS of
131,158.40 = unit cost of .2558064232 X CFS 153.10 = 39.16
Estimated share from previous year of 71.42 minus 39.16 =
credit of 32.25

1990 Budget Report

Total Adopted Budget of 43,846.35 divided by CFS
132,065.40 = unit cost of .330663065 X 153.10 = 50.62
minus credit of 32.23 = 18.37

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1990 Annual Report

Total Expenses 39,264.52 divided by CFS of 124,705.80 =
unit cost of .3127764125 X CFS 93.80 = 29.34. Estimated
share from previous year of 50.62 minus 29.34 = credit of
21.28